TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 28, 1988 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 23, totaled 19.1 billion ton-miles, up 4.6 percent from the 18.3 billion carried in the comparable week of 1987.

Cumulative volume for the first 29 weeks of 1988 was an estimated 550.0 billion ton-miles carried, up 7.9 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended July 23 totaled 424,221, up 3.4 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 1.6 percent above the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were up 0.1 percent in the East, and 7.0 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, 11 of the 20 major commodity groups increased. Loadings of metallic ores were up 5,149 cars (30.0 percent); coal increased by 2,500 cars (2.1 percent); and non-metallic minerals were up by 2,288 cars (28.8 percent). Eleven of the 20 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

Piggyback traffic for the week ended July 16 totaled 110,766 trailers and/or containers, up 6.6 percent from the comparable week of 1987.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 28 weeks of the year was 3,029,230 trailers and/or containers, up 5.4 percent from 1987.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/23/88:

	Loadings in Week ended July 23, 1988		Change from Corresponding Week 1987			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	30,548	D	1,041	3.3	I	556	1.9
Other farm products	3,283	D	37	1.1	D	254	7.2
Metallic ores	22,337	I	5,149	30.0	I	440	2.0
Coal	119,758	I	2,500	2.1	I	4,286	3.7
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	18,677	I	1,266	7.3	I	69	0.4
Nonmetallic minerals	10,238	I	2,288	28.8	I	70	0.7
Grain mill products	10,569	D	164	1.5	D	44	0.4
Food and kindred products	11,295	I	291	2.6	I	13	0.1
Primary forest products	9,889	D	1,167	10.6	D	139	1.4
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,258	D	953	11.6	D	114	1.5
Pulp, paper and allied products	11,976	D	85	0.7	I	123	1.0
Chemicals and allied products	26,246	I	557	2.2	D	1,152	4.2
Petroleum products	5,174	D	59	1.1	D	169	3.2
Stone, clay and glass products	11,596	I	209	1.8	D	413	3.4
Coke	5,726	I	251	4.6	D	256	4.3
Metals and products	10,426	I	1,216	13.2	D	156	1.5
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,150	D	832	5.6	I	1,045	8.0
Waste and scrap materials	9,538	I	969	11.3	I	8	0.1
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,373	D	242	9.3	I	47	2.0
All other carloads	83,164	I	3,989	5.0	I	2,575	3.2
Total Cars Loaded	424,221	I	14,105	3.4	I	6,535	1.6
Corresponding week of 1987	410,116						

	1988	1987	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (29 weeks)	12,160,411	11,488,838	I 5.8
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
28 weeks ended July 16	530.9	491.5	I 8.0
Week ended July 23	19.1	18.3	I 4.6
29 Weeks cumulative	550.0	509.8	I 7.9

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